

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS
IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 13 wherein the display further associates a visual control with each corner or side of each region which enables interactive crop-to-fill mode, said controls to be rendered visible either upon selection of the region, upon entry into the region by a pointing device, or at all times.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 13 wherein the step of entering and subsequently leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises pressing a button on a computer mouse over a visual control associated with one of the selected regions and subsequently releasing the button.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 13 wherein the step of entering and subsequently leaving the interactive segmenting mode comprises pressing a key on the keyboard and subsequently releasing it.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 13 wherein the specification of the source image extent is computed by:
 - determining which corner of said source extent of said source image is being manipulated;
 - determining the current position of a pointing device in a coordinate system determined by the original location and size of said source extent prior to interaction;

- updating the extent of said source extent and therefore the subregion of said source image to be drawn within said containing region such that the corner of said source image is set to said current pointer position in said source image coordinate system.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 13 wherein the cropping is applied to said source image when the crop-to-fill mode is exited, and the user is further able to abort cropping, the method for aborting comprising Pressing a key, such as the `escape` key

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 7 15 wherein the display further associates a visual control with each corner or side of each region which enables interactive crop-to-fill mode, said controls to be rendered visible either upon selection of the region, upon entry into the region by a pointing device, or at all times.

9. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 7 15 wherein the step of entering and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises pressing a button on a computer mouse over a visual control associated with one of the selected regions and subsequently releasing the button.

10. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 7 15 wherein the step of entering and leaving the interactive segmenting mode comprises pressing a key on the keyboard and subsequently releasing it.

11. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 7 15 wherein the specification of the source image extent is computed by:

- determining which corner of the region said source image is being manipulated;

- determining the current position of the mouse pointer in a coordinate system determined by the original location and size of the source image prior to interaction;

- updating the extent of said image drawn within said containing region such that the corner of said image is set to said current pointer position in said source image coordinate system.

12. (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 7 15 wherein the cropping is applied to the contained image when the crop-to-fill mode is exited, and the user is further able to abort cropping, the method for aborting comprising pressing a key, ~~such as the escape key.~~

13 (New) A computer implemented method for performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image, comprising the steps of:

(a) automatically or manually containing an image within a bounding frame, hiding any portion of said image outside of said bounding frame;

(b) entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode with a pointing device at a corner or side of said bounding frame;

(c) moving said pointing device in order to crop said image, said cropping step being either zooming in or zooming out said image in order to create a cropped image, said cropped image continuously filling said bounding frame as said image is being cropped; and

(d) as said image is being cropped, simultaneously maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame.

14 (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said pointing device is a mouse, and wherein said step of moving said pointing device is moving said mouse towards the center of the image to zoom in and away from the center to zoom out.

15 (New) A computer readable medium leaving computer instructions stored thereon to implementing a method for performing method for performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image, comprising the steps of:

(a) automatically or manually containing an image within a bounding frame, hiding any portion of said image outside of said bounding frame;

(b) entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode with a pointing device at a corner or side of said bounding frame;

(c) moving said pointing device in order to crop said image, said cropping step being either zooming in or zooming out said image in order to create a cropped image, said cropped image constantly filling said bounding frame as said image is being cropped; and

(d) as said image is being cropped, simultaneously maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame.

16. (New) A system for performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image comprising:

- a display for displaying an image;
- means for automatically or manually containing an image displayed on said display within a bounding frame and for hiding any portion of said image outside said frame;
- means for entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode with a pointing device;
- means responsive to movement of said pointing device to crop said image in order to create a cropped image, said means responsive to movement also constantly filling said bounding frame as said image is being cropped, and means for maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame as said image is being cropped.

17. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein in step (c), said zooming step is a scaling of said image centered about the corner of said bounding frame opposite to that being manipulated.

18. (New) A computer readable medium according to claim 14, wherein said zooming step is a scaling of said image centered about the corner of said bounding frame opposite to that being manipulated.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected the original 12 claims as being anticipated, under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), by HAEBERLI, U.S. Patent No. 6,587,596.

In response to the Office Action, independent claims 1 and 7 have been cancelled and replaced by new independent claims 13 and 15. A new independent system claim 16 has also been added, and new dependent claims 16 and 17 have been added.

HAEBERLI teaches a system and method of cropping an image and more specifically as illustrated in Figures 9a and 9b. The purpose of HAEBERLI is to provide a crop command to